

# Matthews Committee on Education

## January 12, 2023

Meeting time and place - 7pm in the Jordan Room at Matthews Town Hall

1. Call to Order and Declare a Quorum - 7:05
  - a. In attendance: Jason Collette, Joanna Schimizzi, Maureen Keith, Becky Hawke, Audrey Hitt, Ken McCool
  - b. Absent: Jenny Reill, Chrystie Tillery
2. Review and Approval of Minutes from December Meeting
  - a. Ken McCool made a motion to approve the December minutes. Jason Collette seconded the motion.
  - b. It was noted that an amendment to the minutes needed to be made to list Joanna Schimizzi as present at the meeting.
  - c. Ken McCool motioned to approve as amended. Jason Collette seconded the motion. Ken McCool abstained from voting, as he was not present at the previous meeting. The committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes.
3. Review any changes in membership
  - a. Welcome Maureen Keith, Communications Officer, as Town Liaison as Becky's role as Town Manager has additional responsibilities.
  - b. There is one application that is outstanding.
    1. Joanna Schimizzi motioned to Interview the candidate and see if additional within the next month.
    2. Jason Collette seconded. The committee voted unanimously to interview the outstanding applicant.

3. Joanna Schimizzi offered to email all schools on our database asking to share the survey and MCE application with their students and PTA/PTO.
4. Review and Vote to change Meeting time to 6:30pm
  - a. Joanna Schimizzi motioned to move the meeting to 6:30pm on the second Thursday of each month. Ken McCool seconded motion. The committee voted unanimously to move the meeting time to 6:30pm.
5. Connect [By-laws](#) to the topic of Mental Health in Schools

The Committee made notes in a [brainstorming document](#). Specific action items are listed below.

Regarding “b” action of the Committee - Advise the Board of Commissioners on matters related to educational issues;

- i. Joanna Schimizzi motioned to request time at the Jan 23rd meeting of the Town of Matthews Commissioners to share a presentation about the importance of mental health for students.
    1. Said presentation would be created collaboratively amongst the members asynchronously.
      - a. The Committee’s ask is to request that that town board consider:
        - i. “advocating to CMS for increased funding for and reporting on mental health initiatives in”
        - ii. “advocating to NC General Assembly for increased funding for and reporting on mental health initiatives in” to annual legislative agenda
      - b. Audrey Hitt seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to present to the Town and make official requests about mental health initiatives in schools.
      - c. A draft of the presentation is due to the Town by Wednesday the 18th at noon.
6. Review and discuss [NC General Assembly Session Law 2020-7](#), NC State Board of Education [SHLT-003:School-Based Mental Health Policy](#)

- Each PSU (Public School Unit) must have a Local School Mental Health Plan

The Committee agreed to review the above documents in preparation of the presentation and for future work.

7. Discuss opportunities to meet with Town Council Members, other Elected Officials and other Education policymakers and Education roles

Joanna Schimizzi motioned to reach out to elected officials to request time to meet and connect to hear:

- Introduction of each elected official and hear what their
  - a. roles and responsibilities are and
  - b. focus initiatives and
  - c. interest in Mental Health in schools

- b. A list of officials would include

- i. CMS School board member (both district official and at-large members) separately over time
- ii. NC State Board of Education members James Ford and Chair Eric Davis
- iii. General Assembly
- iv. Laura Budd - NC Representative for Matthews
- v. NC Senators for Matthews - Rachel Hunt, Joyce Waddell

- c. Ken McCool seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to take that action.

8. Update from Ken McCool on MEAC

- a. There have not been any MEAC meetings.

9. Adjourn

- a. Ken McCool motion to adjourn at 8:16pm. Joanna Schimizzi seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to adjourn.

The next meeting is February 9th at 6:30pm.